



March 21, 2001

New Hampshire Joint Board of Licensure and Certification
57 Regional Drive
Concord, NH 03301

Attn: Board of Certification for Natural Scientists

Dear Members of the Board:

The NH Department of Environmental Services (Department) and the New England District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (District) have noted an on-going problem with inaccurate or misleading wetland delineations that have been submitted by Certified Wetlands Scientists. These problems have occurred in several categories, but the most common has been the depiction of recently filled or drained areas as uplands.

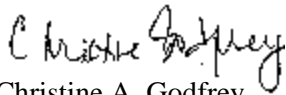
Section F of the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation 1987 Manual (used by both the Department and the District) describes the methodology for identification of impacted or altered sites, and submitted plans should clearly show and label these areas.

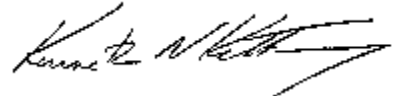
By this letter, the Department wishes to put the consulting industry on notice that future submissions of delineations that do not accurately depict the altered nature of a site will result in the filing of a complaint to the Board against the offending Certified Wetlands Scientist, with a copy furnished to the Corps. The Department will also consider filing complaints in cases where the delineations are so inaccurate that it may constitute reckless or knowing misrepresentation per RSA 482-A:14.

The Corps supports the Department's efforts to ensure accurate data is provided to both the Department and the Corps.

Thank you for your help and consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,


Christine A. Godfrey
Acting Chief, Regulatory Branch
Construction/Operations Division
New England District, ACOE


Kenneth N. Kettenring
Wetland Bureau Administrator
NH Dept. Environmental Services

cc: New Hampshire Association of Natural Resource Scientists
Granite State Designers and Developers